2023 WESTERN LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY

DECEMBER 2023
COLORADO SPRINGS

APPLY ONLINE
www.csgwest.org

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 28

"The WLA creates opportunities to not only learn how to be a better, more effective legislator... but also to learn from the other amazing legislators, with whom you create long lasting relationships.

2021 CLASS PRESIDENT
WYOMING REP. MIKE YIN
What is the Western Legislative Academy?

The West's premier training event for lawmakers in their first 4 years of cumulative service. Three and a half-days of intensive skill building for state legislators from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

What are the goals?

- Help legislators become more effective leaders
- Build strong state legislative institutions

What will I learn?

- Principles of governance
- Consensus building/negotiations
- Tools for ethical decision-making
- History & significance of state legislatures
- Impacts of personality styles
- Leadership techniques
- Time & focus management

What is the value?

- The WLA continues to receive high marks for its overall value to lawmakers from alumni and state leaders alike.
- Since 2000, we have graduated 789 alumni who have returned to their state legislatures ready to make a difference.
- Many of our alumni have gone on to serve as leaders, including presiding officers, majority and minority leaders, committee and caucus leaders, a lieutenant governor, and as members of the U.S. Congress.

Who governs the Western Legislative Academy?

- The CSG West officers and Executive Committee serve as the board of directors for the WLA

Where is the Western Legislative Academy held?

- Colorado Springs, CO
- Classes will be held at the Broadmoor Hotel coupled with activity-based training at the U.S. Air Force Academy and historical performance at the El Pomar Foundation's historic Penrose House.
- Participants are housed at the Broadmoor Hotel

How is the Academy funded?

- With support from state dues, foundation funding and the private sector, CSG West provides training, complimentary meals and participant lodging
- Participants pay for their own travel to and from Colorado Springs

Who are the faculty?

- National experts in state legislatures, communications, time and focus management, governance, ethics and negotiations
- U.S. Air Force leadership development expert
WLA Class Presidents

2021
Wyoming Representative Mike Yin

2019
New Mexico Representative Andrea Romero

2018
Hawai‘i Senator Kaiali‘i Kahele

2017
Nevada Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno

2016
Wyoming Representative Tyler Lindholm

2015
Alaska Representative Geran Tarr

2014
Idaho Representative Kelley Packer

2013
Arizona Senator Kelli Ward

2012
Wyoming Senator Ogden Driskill

2011
Nevada Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson

2010
Wyoming Senator Drew Perkins

2009
New Mexico Senator John Sapien

2008
Arizona Senator Steve Farley

2007
New Mexico Representative Thomas Garcia

2006
Idaho Representative Rich Wills

2005
Nevada Assemblywoman Heidi Gansert

2004
New Mexico Representative Jose Campos

2003
Nevada Senator Kelvin Atkinson

2002
Montana Senator Jim Keane

2001
Alaska Senator Lesil McGuire

2000
Nevada Senator Barbara Cegavske

(Members listed with titles at their time of participation)
Selection criteria includes:

- Dedication to public service
- Desire to improve your personal effectiveness as a legislator
- Commitment to the institution of the legislature
- Interest in improving the legislative process

Reminders about the Western Legislative Academy:

Because of the nature of the program and the importance of interaction among legislators, participants must commit to attend the program in its entirety. The WLA is a classroom experience, not a conference.

- Please keep a copy of your completed application for your files.
- You will be notified that your application has been received and if any information is missing.
- CSG West’s bipartisan leadership will select WLA participants. Applicants will be notified in August regarding their status.
- Class size is 52, with at least 2 participants but no more than 4 per Western state.
- Selection is limited to legislators in their first 4 years of cumulative legislative service.
- Attendance at all WLA events is limited to Academy participants, CSG West staff, presenters and sponsors. There are no events for spouses, guests or children.

Mail Letters of Recommendations to:
Executive Committee - WLA Selection
The Council of State Governments West
1107 Ninth Street, Suite 730
Sacramento, CA 95814

APPLICATION COMING EARLY 2023

Apply online at www.csgwest.org
Email Letters of Recommendations to: wla@csg.org

For questions about the WLA, please contact us at wla@csg.org or (916) 553-4423.

The Council of State Governments West is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association serving legislatures in the 13 Western states. CSG West promotes excellence in state legislatures through regional cooperation and professional development.